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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 000585

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SUBJECT: MORNING SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT REPORTS

1. ANGOLA: THREE AFRICAN NATIONS DECLARE SUPPORT FOR
NATIONAL UNITY GOVERNMENT

THE LEADERS OF UGANDA, ZAIRE AND THE CAR, MEETING IN BANGUI,
ISSUED A JOINT DECLARATION JANUARY 1, STATING THAT THEIR
GOVERNMENTS:

--WILL CONTINUE TO WORK FOR A GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL
UNITY IN ANGOLA, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE OAU;

--WILL INTERCEPT ANY THIRD-COUNTRY FORCES DESTINED FOR
ANGOLA, SHOULD THEY HAVE TO PASS THROUGH THE SIGNATORY
NATIONS' TERRITORIES;

--CONDEMN ALL FOREIGN INTERFERENCE IN ANGOLA AND CALL
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UPON ALL PEACE-LOVING COUNTRIES TO USE THEIR INFLUENCE

TO STOP THE INTERNATIONALIZATION OF THE ANGOLAN PROBLEM. (CONFIDENTIAL) BANGUI 2, 1/1.)

2. A HARD YEAR IN STORE FOR ISRAEL

EMBASSY TEL AVIV SPECULATES THAT DURING 1976 THE CHALLENGE FOR ISRAEL, IF MIDDLE EAST NEGOTIATIONS BECOME DEADLOCKED, WILL BE LESS HOW TO HANDLE ITS OVERT ENEMIES THAN HOW TO CONVINCE ITS REMAINING FRIENDS TO CONTINUE THEIR SUPPORT.

--THE PLO, ABETTED BY THE SOVIETS AND LED BY THE SYRIANS, HAS EXPLOITED THE ABSENCE OF ISRAELI INITIATIVES TO GAIN INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION OF ITS CASE THAT THE PALESTINIAN ISSUE REQUIRES A POLITICAL SOLUTION (STATEHOOD).

--THE OVERWHELMING MAJORITY OF ISRAELIS, HOWEVER, REGARD THE PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INDEPENDENT PALESTINIAN STATE AS EQUIVALENT TO NATIONAL SUICIDE.

--ISRAELIS SEE LEBANON SLOWLY BECOMING ANOTHER CONFRONTATION STATE THROUGH POLITICAL EVOLUTION, AND THEY DO NOT KNOW HOW TO FORESTALL THE OUTCOME.

--RABIN HAS MADE CLEAR TO HIS COUNTRYMEN THAT BECAUSE THE US HAS REGIONAL INTERESTS BEYOND ISRAEL ITSELF, ISRAEL MUST AVOID INVOLVING THE US IN A SUPERPOWER CONFRONTATION; THE CHANGING US POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT WILL AFFECT FUTURE AID LEVELS. (CONFIDENTIAL) TEL AVIV 8193, 12/29.)

3. MOROCCAN-ALGERIAN RELATIONS: NEW STRAINS

MOROCCAN INFORMATION MINISTER BENHIMA HAS EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT THE ALGERIANS ARE ABOUT TO ANNOUNCE THE FORMATION OF A PROVISIONAL SAHARAN GOVERNMENT. INDICATIVE OF THE RISING TENSIONS BETWEEN MOROCCO AND ALGERIA ARE:

--A BBC REPORT--DENIED AT LEAST BY THE ALGERIANS-- THAT THE TWO COUNTRIES HAVE WITHDRAWN THEIR AMBASSADERS. (CONFIDENTIAL)

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DORS;

--RUMORS THAT ALGERIA MIGHT ALSO FORM A PROVISIONAL MOROCCAN GOVERNMENT MADE UP OF ANTI-REGIME EXILES, FED BY AN UNPRECEDENTED DECEMBER 30 CALL BY THE ALGERIAN OFFICIAL PRESS FOR THE OVERTHROW OF THE MOROCCAN MONARCHY;

--PRESS PLAY THAT ALGERIA HAS DEPORTED 30,000 MOROC-
CANS.

EMBASSY RABAT COMMENT: BENHIMA'S CONCERNS APPEAR TO BE
WIDELY SHARED IN THE GOM. FORMATION OF A PROVISIONAL SAHA-
RAN GOVERNMENT WOULD EXACERBATE TENSIONS SIGNIFICANTLY.
THE FORMATION OF A MOROCCAN GOVERNMENT IN EXILE BY THE GOA,
WHILE APPARENTLY LESS LIKELY THAN THE FOREGOING, WOULD PRE-
SUMABLY REFLECT AN ALGERIAN DECISION TO GO TO THE BRINK.
(CONFIDENTIAL) ALGIERS 3803 AND RABAT 6315, 12/31.)

4. CHILE: DR. CASSIDY'S ACCUSATIONS RING TRUE

WITH REGARD TO DR. SHEILA CASSIDY'S ACCUSATION THAT SHE
WAS TORTURED DURING CONFINEMENT IN CHILE, EMBASSY SANTIAGO
COMMENTS THAT HER CHARGE IS CREDIBLE IN THE CONTEXT OF
CURRENT GOC INTERNAL SECURITY PROCEDURES. THE BRITISH
EMBASSY IN SANTIAGO IS CONVINCED THAT SHE WAS TORTURED.
(CONFIDENTIAL), SANTIAGO 8742, 12/31.) INGERSOLL

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